UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,745	02/21/2002	David Raymond Posh	AUS920010933US1	5306

7590   05/30/2007

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EXAMINER
NGUYEN, MAIKHANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/30/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 March 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-10,12-18 and 20-24* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-2, 4-10, 12-18, and 20-24* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to Amendment filed 03/12/2007 to the original application filed

02/21/2002.

Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12-18, and 20-24 are presented for examination. Claims 3, 11, and 19

have been canceled. Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17-18, and 20-23 have been amended.

Claims 1, 9, and 17 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7, 9-15 and 17-23 maintain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by **Liu et al.** (U.S. 5,706,449 – issued 01/06/1998).

As to claim 9:

Liu teaches a method of user-interactive document editing on a display *(e.g., a graphical user interface controls ...manipulate lists of heterogeneous objects; col. 2, lines 54-56)* comprising:

- defining of a first alphanumeric segment of displayed data in a displayed text document having continuous line of text *(e.g., the column whose heading was clicked ...the user then select the desired column/ highlights the heading of the column; col. 7, lines 10-40 and figs. 17-19 and associated text);*

- defining a second alphanumeric segment of displayed data in the displayed text document *(e.g., the column whose heading was clicked ...the user then select the desired column / highlights the heading of the column; col. 7, lines 10-40 and figs.17-19 and associated text) ;*

- enabling a user to select to directly swap the first segment with the second segment *(e.g., swaps the two columns; col. 7, lines 10-17);* and

- swapping the positions of the segments of data with each other in a single step independently of separately identifying a new location for each of the one and other segments other than defining each segment responsive to a user selection to swap *(e.g., enables the user to swap columns in the list control 46. In order to swap columns, the user selects "Swap" in the pop-up 64. The list control 46 then displays a list of columns with which the column whose heading was clicked can be swapped. The user then selects the desired column. After receiving the user's selection, the list control 46 swaps the two columns; col. 7, lines 10-40).*

As to claim 10:

Liu teaches highlighting the first and second segments prior to swapping the positions of

the segments *(e.g., clicking the heading of a column, selecting the desired column; col.7,*

lines 10-17).

As to claim 12:

Liu teaches the alphanumeric text in each of the swapped segment is a phrase *(e.g., text in*

columns; col.3, lines 27-35).

As to claim 13:

Liu teaches the alphanumeric text in each of the swapped segments is a sentence *(e.g.,*

text in columns to be swapped could be presented as a sentence; col.3, lines 27-35).

As to claim 14:

Liu teaches the alphanumeric text in each of the swapped segments is a paragraph *(e.g.,*

text in columns to be swapped could be presented as a paragraph; col.3, lines 27-35).

As to claim 15:

Liu teaches the alphanumeric text in each of the swapped segments is at least one page in

length *(e.g., text in columns to be swapped could be presented as a page in length; col.3,*

lines 27-35).

As to claims 1-2 and 4-7:

Note the rejection of claims 9-10 and 12-15 above. Claims 1-2 and 4-7 are the same as claims 9-10 and 12-15, except claims 1-2 and 4-7 are system claims and claims 9-10 and 12-15 are method claims.

As to claims 17-18 and 20-23:

Note the rejection of claims 9-10 and 12-15 above. Claims 17-18 and 20-23 are the same as claims 9-10 and 12-15, except claims 17-18 and 20-23 are computer readable medium claims and claims 1-9 are method claims.

3. Claims 8, 16, and 24 maintain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Liu** in view of **Higashio** (US 5900869, issued 05/04/1999).

As to claims 8, 16 and 24:

Higashio teaches swapping images *(col.3, lines 43-67and fig.1)*.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Liu with Higashio with because it would have provided a control that enables a user to manipulate lists in the control, in particular, lists containing heterogenous objects. The list operations that can be performed using the list control include: (1) swapping columns, (2) freezing and unfreezing columns, (3) hiding and

showing columns, and (4) finding text in columns. The swap operation enables the user to

swap columns in the list control.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments filed 03/12/2007 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant argues in substance that Liu does not teach *"swapping two segments of*

alphanumeric text in a displayed text document having continuous lines of text"

[Remarks, page 7].

In response, Liu does teach swapping *(the swap operation enable user to swap)* two

segments *(columns)* of alphanumeric text in a displayed text document having continuous

lines of text *(see Figs. 17-19 and the discussion at col. 7, lines 10-40)*.

As to dependent claims 2, 4-8, 10, 12-16, 18, and 20-24, the arguments are not persuasive

for reason as discussed above with regards to independent claims 1, 9, and 17.

Conclusion

5.   The prior art made of record, listed on PTO 892 provided to Applicant is considered to

have relevancy to the claimed invention. Applicant should review each identified

reference carefully before responding to this office action to properly advance the case in

light of the prior art.

6.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of

the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than

SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.
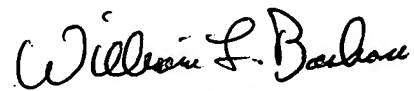
Contact information

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 5:30

pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (571) 272-4136.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be

obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner for patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MN

WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER